Rectification with Topocentric Primary Directions - Isaac Starkman

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Part I Rectification using Primary Directions & Polaris

Rectification of a birth chart is always a difficult task, even if the approximate birth time is known and a large number of major events are supplied. It requires much experience, patience and time. However, in contrast with past decades of astrological practice, the true birth time can now be found much more easily and be corroborated with approved methods. For the first time, my program **Polaris** is designed to perform **automatic** rectification *even when the birth time is unknown*, given a certain minimum number of known life events.

We need accurate rectification in order to FIGHT COINCIDENCE. In other words, we must be able to demonstrate that the results we obtain could not have occurred just by chance.

We can do this only if

1. We use small orbs in our measurements;

2. We use striking, never changing symbolism;

3. The rectification shows an ample quantity of appropriate aspects, especially angular aspects.

4. And if we can corroborate the rectification with other proven systems. ONE SYSTEM ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH!

Primary Directions is a system of progressing a chart based upon *the diurnal rotation of the earth.* The calculations are quite complicated but nowadays one need not be a math wizard!

There are various systems of Primary Directions, but I have found **Primary Direction in the Topocentric System** to be the best. My vast experience clearly shows that only in this system do Angular and House Cusp directions reflect events in adequate number, with appropriate symbolism and *to a very tight orb*. This fact drastically reduces the number of viable rectified times and, in fact, made possible the construction and creation of Polaris.

How Polaris works. Polaris has a comprehensive built-in table which assigns a score to the correspondence between a particular event and a specific aspect. For example, for the event “successful trip abroad”, the highest score of 25 points goes to the aspect MC conjunct Jupiter and no score to MC square Saturn and so on.

As an example, let us use the chart of Elizabeth Taylor:

To rectify her birth time we will use 21 major events in her life. The search time spans 24 hours, from local midnight (00.00 UT, 27 Feb 1932) to the next local midnight (00.00 UT, 28 Feb 1932), the interval of time in which the primary measurements will occur. The program systematically scans all possible Primary Directions (Angles and house-cusp) to the maximum orbs of only 10.8' (minutes) for conjunctions & oppositions and 5.6' (minutes) for all the other aspects, associated with the input event-dated, at eight seconds increments. Polaris makes calculations for 10,800 moments for all the 21 events and displays the following birth time table:

27 Feb 1932 11.09.36 scores= 588
27 Feb 1932 14.08.56 scores= 551
27 Feb 1932 04.34.40 scores= 537
27 Feb 1932 01.54.24 scores= 523

The birth time given by the most secure sources is 02.00 GMT. Testing each available time reveals to us that only the fourth ranking time 01.54.24 UT is the correct one.
It is impossible to expect the correct time to always appear as the first ranking but extensive testing has shown that with an adequate number of major events the true birth time always appears as one of the first few birth times Polaris presents.

Each rectified time must be checked through the following Techniques:

1. Primary Directions, including the interplanetary aspects

2. Secondary Directions using the Solar Arc in Right Ascension for house-directions

3. PSSR-Progress of the Sidereal Solar Returns. This technique was discovered by Cyril Fagan. For each event two precessed Solar Returns are calculated: direct and converse. Secondary progressions (and regressions) of the planets and Nodes only are then derived from those two Solar Returns and we search for aspects with all factors of the chart, including the angles and house cusps.

4. Lunar Cycles direct and converse, precession-corrected.

5. Transits to Angles, both direct and converse.

As a general rule, each valid system is working both in direct *and* in converse mode.

Now, let me demonstrate the primary directions, supported by all the above systems in some important events in Taylor's life:

You need not understand every technicality to trust a program like Polaris; you simply must appreciate all the work that is being done under the most stringent guidelines. This will give you a birth time practically set in concrete,

For primaries, maximum orb is 11' for conjunction and opposition and 5.7' for all the other aspects. For Secondaries and PSSR the orbs are 11' & 9' respectively. For the Moon in secondary and PSSR the orb is 28' for conjunction and opposition and 16' for all the other aspects.

d= direct or progress
c= converse or regress

Event 1: On 23rd March 1958 her husband Mike Todd dies in plane crash.

Primary Directions:

MC conjunct Neptune (orb 3') (c)
Venus sesquiquadrate South Node (orb 0') (d)
VIII cusp semisquare South Node (orb 5') (d)
Uranus sesquiquadrate South Node (orb 3') (d)
Secondary directions:
MC square Saturn (orb 4') (d)
MC conjunct Neptune (orb10') (c)
Moon square Mars (orb 14') (c)

Event 2: on 6th August 1957 gives birth to daughter Elizabeth

Primary Directions:

IC conjunct Sun (orb 2') (c)
Mars conjunct IC (orb 4') (d)
IC conjunct Mercury (orb 7') (c)
IC conjunct V cusp (orb 9') (d)
PSSR:Jupiter textile V cusp (orb 9')

Event 3: On 17th April 1961 she received the Oscar award

Primary Directions:

Sun trine MC (orb1') (c)
Venus square Jupiter (orb 2')
Secondary:
Sun trine ASC (orb 4') (d)
Moon sexitle Jupiter (orb12') (c to c)
Transits:
Jupiter trine MC (orb 28') (d)
Jupiter 135 MC (orb 18') (c)

Event 4: on 7th November 1982 she divorced John Wamer

In the converse Lunar Return casting for Bel-Air: Mars, Saturn, Neptune & Moon are all on MC-IC axis.
PSSR: South-Node trine MC (orb 4')
Venus opposition Neptune (orb 9')

Event 5: on 8th December 2002 she received JFK Center Honors

Primary directions:

MC trine Jupiter (orb 3') (d)
Asc opposition to Venus (orb 1') and to Uranus (orb 4') (c)
Jupiter square Mercury (orb 1') (c)
Secondary: Venus sextile cusp V (orb 1') (d)

Event 6: on 11th September 1994 her mother died

Primary Directions:
MC opposition Saturn (orb 3') (c)

Secondary:
MC sextile South-Node (orb 4') (c)
Converse transit: South-Node sextile Asc (orb 27')

Event 7: on 21st July 1968 she underwent a hysterectomy operation

Primary Directions:

Asc trine Neptune (orb 2') (d)
PSSR: In the current Solar Return, precession corrected, calculated for 26th Feb 1968 23.24 PST the Moon is in 26Aquarius01'. Progressing it to 21 July, we will get 1Pisces14' conjunct radical Mars with orb of 19'.

In the converse Solar Return cast for 25TH February 1896 12.13 PST, the Moon is 25Cancer 40'. Regressing it to 21st July 1968 the Moon will be 20Cancer02' conjunct Pluto orb 11'.

Such conjunctions and oppositions of the Moon are one of the best proofs for rectification.

Checking all the events we have for her will reveal that there is only one moment is perfect in its overlapping support of all the above techniques.

As experience shows, all events are showing the correct house cusp directions. This is an important facilitation for forecast. Luminaries, Planets and the Node have to be always interpreted by their true symbolism and not by ruler, sub-ruler or dispositorship. This is always without any exceptions shown in my analysis of over 16,000 events for 600 rectifications.

Pre-Natal Epoch or Conception Chart & The Dual Test

Having found the correct birth time and corroborated it with all the techniques as I demonstrated in Part I, we can now try to find out the Pre Natal Epoch or the Conception chart.

Since the time of Ptolemy, generations of astrologers have tried to discover a way to determine the date and time of conception. Attempts were made in the 20th century by Bailey and Jayne. Many astrologers expressed their doubts and some even derided the possibility to ascertain the time of conception, which usually occurred 1-2 days after coitus.

In 1980, Alexander Marr discovered a simple method for determining the Prenatal Epoch. The following is a summary of the main principles for finding the exact conception moment or Prenatal Epoch:

1. A birth time of the Radix rectified to within 8 seconds of time is indispensable.

2. The Moon's longitude at Epoch is the longitude of the Radix Ascendant or Descendant, to a maximum orb of 8' (minutes of arc) and an average orb of 2'. The ancient rule (Triune of Hermes) that the Ascendant or Descendant of Epoch should simultaneous occupy the longitude of the radical Moon is incorrect. A horoscope with well authenticated birth time could not be forced to fit into the ancient mutually dependent conditions.

3. The only info we must know is the mother's place at the time of the conception. Usually, it is the same place as that of birth but in some cases it could be different. A famous case

is Franklin Roosevelt who was born in New York with conception having taken place in Paris.

4. With a normal gestation period, the Epoch date must occur approximately 260-290 days before birth. For gestation periods known to be shorter than normal, we seek an Epoch date accordingly, up to 7 or 8 months before birth.

5. In most cases, the Moon is either waxing in both Radix and Epoch, or waning in both.

6. This is the starting point for refining the Epoch rectification with Primaries, as is done with the Radix.

The Epoch is not a way to rectify a birth chart. First one should rectify the Radix!

The search for the exact time of the epoch is fairly simple as the time span is always limited.

The radix Ascendant of 6 Sagittarius 26 for Elizabeth Taylor gives a possible Epoch on the following dates:

1. 18th May 1931 11.25 UT Moon 6 Gem 26'
2. 31st May 1931 09.49 UT Moon 6 Sag 26'
3. 14th June 1931 19.15 UT Moon 6Gem 26'

The only way to detect the true date of an epoch is to check each possible date. We start with converse Lunar Cycles. We assume that the gestation period was a normal one and that conception took place at the birth location.

Examples for Epoch casting for 31 May 1931

1. On 25th August 1971 her Grandaugther was born
in the converse: Lunar return Jupiter exactly on Asc, Venus also quite close.

In the demi (2nd harmonic) converse lunar Jupiter exactly on MC.

2. On 26th June 1974 she divorced Richard Burton.
In the demi converse: lunar Saturn and North-Node on Desc.

3. On 4th December she married John Warner.
In the converse: lunar Mars exactly on Desc, very appropriate for a marriage of woman.

4. On 6th August 1957 her daughter was born.
Venus is exactly on Asc in the converse lunar return.

Additional analysis of these lunar cycles with other events and comparison of the results with those from the other possible epoch dates shows that 31st May 1931 must be the correct date for the epoch.

A search with Polaris for the period between 9.30 UT (Moon 6Sag 14') and 10.10 UT (Moon 6Sag 37') shows that the true time of Epoch is 09.47.44 UT. Verification of this epoch can then be made using the same techniques that were used for the radix.

With both the Radix and Epoch at hand, we can now able to employ the powerful **Dual Test.**

There are four possible modes:

R/R: Radix factors directed to Radix factors.

1. R/E: Radix factors directed to Epoch factors.
2. E/E: Epoch factors directed to factors of the Epoch.
3. E/R: Epoch factors directed to Radix factors.

We can perform Dual Test using Primary Directions, Secondary directions and PSSR.

The **Dual-Test** quadruples the number of aspects, compared with the usual Radix analysis and thus improves the directional system considerably by providing a large number of appropriate aspects for any event. This fact enables us for the first time to make much more accurate predictions.

Event 1: on 10th April 1967 Taylor received the Oscar

Venus opposition MC E/R (orb 10')
III cusp conjunct North-Node R/E (orb 3')
Jupiter trine Uranus E/E (orb 3') (d)
Jupiter sextile Uranus E/E (orb 5') (c)
Uranus sextile Venus R/E (orb 4')
MC sextile North-Node E/E (orb 5')
North-Node conjunct Mercury E/E (orb 6')

Event 2: On 27th February 1955 son Christopher was born

Asc trine Jupiter R/E (orb 0')
Venus opposition Asc E/R (orb 8')
Asc opposition Mercury E/R (orb 7')
Sun sextile cusp V E/R (orb 2')
Mars square IC E/E (orb 2')
In Secondary Directions:
Cusp V sextile Jupiter R/E (orb 0')
Asc trine Jupiter R/E (orb 9')
Asc trine Pluto R/R (orb 1')

Event 3: On 21st July 1968 – a hysterectomy operation

Asc trine Neptune R/R (orb 2')
Saturn trine Mars R/E (orb 0')
Pluto opposition Fortune E/E (orb 0')
Mars opposition cusp XII R/E (orb 9')
Cusp XII conjunct Asc E/E (orb 8')
Part of Fortune opposition cusp XII E/E (orb 8')
South-Node conjunct Neptune E/R (orb 6')
South-Node conjunct MC R/E (orb 5')
Mars conjunct Uranus R/E (orb 0')

An important event will never occur with only one single aspect. Only accumulation of several aspects with appropriate symbolism and with very small orbs will indicate major event.

It has been found that in most cases, analysis of the Epoch can cast a sharper perspective on the destiny of the native. Here are some examples:

1. **Maximollien Robespierre**
Radix: 6th May 1758 01.55.08 UT 50N17 2E47 Asc 28Aqu21'
Epoch: 1st Aug 1757 08.15.40 UT Moon 28Aqu23'

Robespierre's role as a leader and mouthpiece of the Terror, his downfall and tragic end are clearly indicated in his epoch by Mars in opposition to Pluto right on MC/IC axis square Uranus.

2. **Abraham Lincoln**
Radix: 12th February 1809 17.17.40 UT 39N34 85W44' Asc 1Ari31'
Epoch: 20th May 1808 05.03.04 UT Moon 1Ari34'

The tragic destiny of his assassination can be seen clearly in his epoch: Mars in opposition to Saturn exactly on the MC/IC axis together with Nodes.

3. **Frank Sinatra**
Radix: 12th December 1915 7.58.49 UT 40N44 74W02 Asc 28Lib08'
Epoch: 18th March 1915 13.55.47 UT Moon 28Ari08'

In his epoch, the triple conjunction of Venus, Uranus and MC gave him his great signing and entertainment talent.

4. **Diana Princess of Wales**
Radix: 1st July 1961 17.23.49 UT 52N50 0E30 Asc 3Sag01'
Epoch: 8th October 1960 21.13.28 UT Moon 3Gem05'

While in the Radix, Mars Pluto and Node all square Asc/Desc axis explaining much of her tragic life, the epoch indicated sharply her end: Mars opposition Saturn on Asc/MC axis and Pluto very close to IC. The triple conjunction of Mercury, Venus and Neptune in 5th house is much appropriate.

***The Epoch may also explain the mystery of twins. Alexander Marr claimed that twins had a common epoch (corresponding to the radix of the first born) and this could be the reason why twins have so many similarities.